

Bible 11/12: Dating and Marriage

Pre-marital Counseling

- Being “in love” ≠ being prepared for marriage.
- 2 reasons pre-marital counseling is a good idea:
 1. Living as a married couple does not come naturally
 2. Living as a married couple requires skill
- Sources: pastors (priests, rabbis, etc.) or professional counselors
- When should you have pre-marital counseling: **Before** announcing you engagement to everyone, in case you decide to break it off.
- Myths about marriage
 1. Happily ever after
 2. Intense, passionate, romantic feelings will always be dominant
 3. Communication is easy and natural
 4. Money doesn't matter (Actually, it's one of the most common reasons for divorce.)
- 12 Stages of Bonding
 1. Eye to body
 2. Eye to eye
 3. Voice to voice
 4. Hand to hand
 5. Hand to shoulder
 6. Hand to waist
 7. Face to face (close, personal space)
 8. Hand to head (emotional closeness)

Numbers 9-12 should be reserved for marriage only and will not be given here.